

**May 22, 2014 meeting minutes
Cambridge GLBT Commission**

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 2014

Call to Order.

Kevin Shpritzer recorded these minutes.

Agenda for the May 22 meeting was accepted.

The minutes of the April 24 meeting were approved.

Commissioners Present: Kevin Shpritzer, Aren Stone, Mal Malme, John Gintell, Neil Scannell, Anna Weick, Bill Barnert, Rachel Oppenheimer, Bob Parlin, Steven Lee, Gregory Grays-Thomas, Caitlin Drechsler, Kara Smith, Lesley Phillips, Maggie Giles,

Commissioners Absent: (excused) – Mike McKenna, Kristina Mastropasqua, Paul Miller – (unexcused) - Neil MacInnes-Barker

Guests: Mary (mother of an LGBTQ former CRLS student), Linda Pinti

I. Welcome

- a. Commissioners introduced each other and shared something about themselves.

II. Budget

- a. The Commission was given \$2,500 for the fiscal year and has \$207.75 remaining.
- b. The fiscal year ends on June 30.
- c. Bill suggested we put the remaining funds toward a Commission banner that can be hung up at outreach events.
 - i. He and Steven will work on finding and purchasing the banner.

III. Recent Events

- a. **Mayfair – May 4**
 - i. The Commission had a table at this event.
 - ii. This event went well, and the table received many visitors, particularly from young people who shared their stories.
- b. **LGBT Elders Conference – May 14**
 - i. John attended the conference this year.
 - ii. Judge Judith Cowen was the keynote speaker.
- c. **Marriage Equality Event – May 16**
 - i. This event was very well-attended. The official number of attendees was 160, although some estimate the number was higher.
 - ii. We'd like to thank Ed Byrne, the Mayor and his staff, the City Manager's Office, Mass Equality, and all others who were involved in the planning and production of this event.
 - iii. A number of news sources from around the country ran stories on the event.
 - iv. Steven requested that we get some clarity with Neil M-B about what will happen with the video that he took during the event.

- v. Aren suggested we send thank-you notes to those who helped make this event happen.
- vi. Neil S. suggested we put create a letterhead and perhaps purchase Commission stationary.
- d. **Youth Pride – May 17**
 - i. The Commission had a table at this event.
 - ii. The weather was fantastic and the table received a good number of visitors.
 - iii. Unfortunately, there was no food at the event, which was disappointing to parade-goers.

IV. **Future Events**

- a. **River Festival – June 7 – 12pm-6pm**
 - i. Due to construction, the event will be on Mass Ave this year.
 - ii. The Commission is registered to have a table at River Festival.
 - iii. Community Tables sites will be at Mass Ave and Sidney Street along Sidney Street.
 - iv. Kara will leave a box at the City Hall Annex at 344 Broadway on Thursday, June 5, that will get delivered to our site by DPW along with a table and chairs.
 - v. Kevin will organize the schedule for staffing the table.
- b. **Pride Brunch – June 14 – 8:30-10:00am**
 - i. **Recognition Awards**
 - 1. Lesley moved that we go to Committee of the Whole to discuss the nominations.
 - ii. **Bayard Rustin Service Award**
 - 1. Gregory, Paul, and Brian Corr (Executive Direction, Peace Commission) will be making the decision about the recipient of this award.
 - 2. The Committee of the Whole reported.
 - iii. **Program**
 - 1. Sue Hyde will emcee the event.
 - 2. Aren will contact Ed Byrne to set up a planning meeting with the Commission and the Mayor's office.
 - iv. **Publicity**
 - 1. The Mayor's office will connect with media outlets.
 - 2. All Commissioners should publicize to their personal networks as well.
- c. **Danehy Park Family Day – September**
- d. **LGBT Teachers Event – fall**
- e. **November Event**
 - i. We will start planning for this event at our June meeting.

V. **Ongoing Policy Discussions**

- a. **Facebook Policy**
 - i. All Commissioners are encouraged to post on the Commission's Facebook page.
 - ii. We should also share interesting posts from the Commission's page on our personal web pages.
 - iii. Facebook has a fee-based method for boosting our posts.

- iv. We will look into spending money to boost posts about upcoming events, such as the Pride Brunch.
- v. We revisited an earlier discussion about policies regarding the use of our Facebook page.
- vi. The Commission decided we should have a policy posted on our Facebook page letting visitors know what types of posts are acceptable/unacceptable.
- vii. Neil S., Steven and Kara will put together a policy.
- viii. *A general reminder was made that all suggestions and topics raised by Commissioners, during our meetings, are welcome and encouraged and need to be received and responded to in a respectful manner by all Commissioners.*

VI. Planning for 2014-2015

a. Interns

- i. We have a budget (\$6,000) to get an intern or two in the next fiscal year to work with the Commission.
- ii. This budget will be included in the Human Rights Commission line item and they will house the intern(s) in their office so that they have access to a workspace.

b. Vacant Commissioner Slot

- i. Since Danny resigned, we have a vacant slot for a new commissioner.
- ii. We will recommend that the City Manager appoint a candidate that has previously been interviewed by the Commission.

VII. Newsletter

- i. Bill drafted a fantastic newsletter.
- ii. The Commission discussed the title of the newsletter.
- iii. Q Cambridge, The Q Republic, The Queer Republic, Qtabrigia are all suggested names.
- iv. We will have a poll at the Pride Brunch to let the community decide on the name.
- v. We agree that the newsletter should be sent out, without a name, as soon as possible.

VIII. Announcements

- a. Kevin announced that on June 7, there is a Boston Derby Dames roller derby game at the Simoni Ice Rink in Cambridge. www.bostonderbydames.com

Meeting was adjourned at 7:35pm